

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A shock-actuated lock comprising:

a) a ramp, said ramp having an upper portion and a lower portion, and further wherein the upper portion being in a horizontal plane and further wherein the lower portion being in a vertical plane, said lower portion also having a bottom, said ramp being positioned adjacent to a movable object;

b) a ball, movably installed on said ramp, said ball having a quantity of a ferrous material therein;

c) a means for retaining said ball in said upper portion of said ramp, said means for retaining having a threshold of motion, below which said ball is held motionless in said upper portion of said ramp and, above which said ball becomes free to move in said ramp;

d) a means for retaining said ball at the bottom of said lower portion of said ramp; and

e) a magnet, secured to said cabinet door and being positioned in alignment with the bottom of said lower portion of said ramp, such that when the ball is held at the bottom of said lower portion of said ramp, the magnet is attracted to said ball by an attractive force, such that the cabinet door is held closed.

2. The lock of claim 1 wherein the ramp is mounted in a cabinet.

3. The lock of claim 1 wherein the movable object is a cabinet door.

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1 4. The lock of claim 3 wherein the cabinet door is hingeably attached to the
2 cabinet.

3 5. The lock of claim 1 wherein the means for retaining said ball in said upper
4 portion of said ramp comprise a plurality of ribs, formed in said upper portion of said
5 ramp.

6 6. The lock of claim 1 wherein the means for retaining said ball at the bottom of
7 said lower portion of said ramp comprises a plate, secured to the bottom of said lower
8 portion of said ramp.

9 7. The lock of claim 6 wherein the plate has an opening formed therein.

10 8. The lock of claim 1 wherein the cabinet door has a means for overcoming the
11 attractive force of said magnet.

12 9. The lock of claim 8 wherein the means for overcoming the attractive force of
13 said magnet comprises a door pull, attached to said door.

14 10. A shock-actuated lock comprising:

15 a) a ramp, said ramp having an upper portion and a lower portion, and further
16 wherein the upper portion being in a horizontal plane and further wherein the lower
17 portion being in a vertical plane, said lower portion also having a bottom, said ramp
18 being positioned inside a cabinet adjacent to a cabinet door;

19 b) a ball, movably installed on said ramp, said ball having a quantity of a ferrous
20 material therein;

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1 c) a means for retaining said ball in said upper portion of said ramp, said means
2 for retaining having a threshold of motion, below which said ball is held motionless in
3 said upper portion of said ramp and, above which said ball becomes free to move in
4 said ramp;

5 d) a means for retaining said ball at the bottom of said lower portion of said
6 ramp; and

7 e) a magnet, secured to said cabinet door and being positioned in alignment with
8 the bottom of said lower portion of said ramp, such that when the ball is held at the
9 bottom of said lower portion of said ramp, the magnet is attracted to said ball by an
10 attractive force, such that the cabinet door is held closed.

11 11. The lock of claim 10 wherein the cabinet door is hingeably attached to the
12 cabinet.

13 12. The lock of claim 10 wherein the means for retaining said ball in said upper
14 portion of said ramp comprise a plurality of ribs, formed in said upper portion of said
15 ramp.

16 13. The lock of claim 10 wherein the means for retaining said ball at the bottom of
17 said lower portion of said ramp comprises a plate, secured to the bottom of said lower
18 portion of said ramp.

19 14. The lock of claim 10 wherein the plate has an opening formed therein.

20 15. The lock of claim 10 wherein the cabinet door has a means for overcoming the
21 attractive force of said magnet.

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1 16. The lock of claim 10 wherein the means for overcoming the attractive force of
2 said magnet comprises a door pull, attached to said door.